

**COST SHARE AGREEMENT**  
**Between the**  
**USDA FOREST SERVICE, HELENA NATIONAL FOREST**  
**And the**  
**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION**  
**(MT DNRC)**

The purpose of this agreement is to provide for a coordinated cooperative fire suppression operation on this fire and to describe the cost division. Following is the cost share agreement between the agencies identified above as negotiated for the following incident in accordance with the **Statewide Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement #05-FI-11015600-014** executed between the parties on 3/10/05.

Incident Name: Meriwether

Origin: Township 13N Range 2W Section  
Lat: 46 degrees Long: 111 degrees  
52' 11" 52' 56"

Estimated Size: 6017 acres at the time of this agreement

Incident Start Date and Time: 7/17/2007 @ 2200 hrs.

Jurisdictions: Helena NF and Lewis and Clark County (State and Private)

Incident Cause: Lightning

Incident Numbers by Agency:

Agency	Fire #	Accounting Code
Forest Service	MT-HNF-000033	P1DS1N / 0112
MT DNRC		57014

Cost Share Period: This agreement becomes effective on the date indicated below and will remain in effect until amended or terminated.

State date/time: 7/28/2007 @ 0700

End date/time: 8/14/2007 @ 2400

Command Structure: Overall direction of this incident will be by ( ) **Unified Command** with local government, or by ( X ) **Single Command** structure.

Principal Contacts. The following personnel are the principal contacts:

Position	Name	Agency
Incident Commander	Wally Bennett 7/28 0700 – 8/4 1800	MT DNRC
	Dan Oltrogge 8/4 1800 – 8/14 2000	NPS
Agency Administrative Rep. FS	Duane Harp, District Ranger	USFS – R1
Agency Administrative Rep. (DNRC)	Garry Williams	MT DNRC

Agency representatives participating in the development of this cost share agreement:

Forest Service:

Name: Paula Plymale

Title: Incident Business Advisor

State of MT:

Name: Sue Clark

Title: Incident Business Advisor

Structural Protection:

1. Identify the entity(s) that will provide structural protection and the rationale.

- ◆ DNRC agrees to assume 100% of the costs incurred by Lewis and Clark County relating to structure protection within the Helena NF wildland fire protection area for a very small area at American Bar. *(These actions are defined in the 8/11/99, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group document titled, "Structural Fire Protection".)*
- ◆ Within the direct protection area of the Helena National Forest, there are cabins on affidavit lands that will be protected by the forest.

2. Also include the matrix that identifies the protecting entities and their responsibilities.

**PROTECTING ENTITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

<b>Entity &amp; Location of Protection</b>	<b>Wildland Fire Responsibility (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Structure Protection Responsibility (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Structure Suppression Responsibility (Yes or No)</b>
Helena NF – includes private affidavit lands	Yes	Yes	No
Lewis and Clark County – Non Affidavit Lands American Bar	Yes	Yes	No
York Fire Department	No	Yes	Yes

Special Management Operational Conditions: Refer to the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis.

Basis or Rationale for Cost Share:

Daily estimated costs in I-suite and the daily number of acres burned in each protection area were tracked for the cost share period. A final percentage to apply to the actual costs of the fire was calculated per the attached spreadsheet. The acres prior to the cost share are included because action was still being taken on these acres during the cost share period. All costs prior to the cost share period will be bore by each agency.

- a. USFS - 69%
- b. MT DNRC - 31%

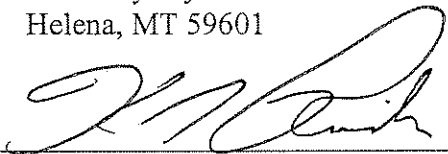
Other conditions relative to this agreement (Special conditions, standard clauses, notifications, incident information, etc.)

- 1) Costs for nonexpendable property purchases by each agency will be charged directly to that agency and will not be shared.
- 2) Administrative overhead costs such as agency personnel, support and services, not directly assigned or ordered by the incident, will not be included as a part of this cost share agreement and will not be shared.
- 3) Costs incurred by cooperators not engaged in unified fire suppression activities will not be included as part of this cost share agreement.
- 4) Agency-specific costs will not be shared.
- 5) Non-suppression rehabilitation costs are the responsibility of the jurisdiction agency and will not be shared.
- 6) Responsibility for tort claims costs or compensation for injury costs will not be a part of this agreement. Responsibility for these costs will be determined outside this agreement.
- 7) Daily acres burned by protection area and estimated costs will be documented and approved by the Agency Administrators or their designated representatives.
- 8) Sharing of final actual costs between the agencies will be based on actual incident suppression costs and each agency's proportionate share thereof as agreed to by the protection agencies.
- 9) Large fire overhead support provided by an Area Command, Buying Team, Expanded Dispatch, Mobilization and Demobilization Centers and Transportation Centers will not be shared in this agreement.
- 10) Per the Montana Cooperative Fire Agreement billing procedures, the parties to this agreement will determine the total costs of each agency. Each agency will bill for their costs.

Northern Region 8/2/07 Amendment #4 8/29/07

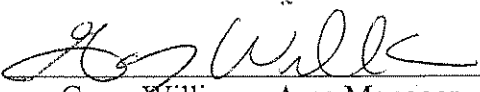
This Agreement and the apportionment described are our best judgments of fair and equitable Agency cost responsibilities.

Agency: USDA Forest Service, Helena National Forest  
2880 Skyway Drive  
Helena, MT 59601

Signature:   
Kevin T. Riordan, Forest Supervisor

Date: 8/28/07

Agency: State of Montana – DNRC  
Central Land Office  
8001 North Montana  
Helena, MT 59602

Signature:   
Garry Williams, Area Manager  
Central Land Office

Date: 8/28/07

## Meriwether Fire

*Helena National Forest and State of Montana (DNRC)*

[illegible]